



Citizen Engaging in Government Oversight (CEGO) in Natural Resources Management

Grant Agreement No. AID-621-GI-4-00001

Quarterly Progress Report

April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014

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Submitted by:

Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT)

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Annex I: Citizen Engaging in Government Oversight (CEGO) in Natural Resources Management Indicator Chart

There are no verified and approved indicators at the moment

Acronyms

CBFM	Community Based Forest Management
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CEGO	Citizen engaging in Government Oversight
CDPA	Capacity Development for Partners of Accountability
DNRC	District Natural Resources Committees
LEAT	Lawyers' Environmental Action Team
LGAs	Local Government Authorities
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NRM	Natural Resources Management
OCA	Organizational Capacity Assessment
PMMP	Project Management Monitoring Plan
SAM	Social Accountability Monitoring
TOTs	Training of Trainers
WMA	Wildlife Management Areas
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
RC	Regional Commissioner
DC	District Commissioner
DED	District Executive Director

Executive Summary

This report describes the activities conducted in the third quarter of Financial Year 2014 of the *Citizen Engaging in Government Oversight in Natural Resources Management* (CEGO-NRM) Project. The CEGO project is implemented in Iringa and Mufindi districts in the Iringa Region, in the first two years of the project span.

In this third quarter of the project Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT) completed implementing some of the administrative and procurement activities including procurement of project equipment, renovation part of the LEAT office which forms part of the CEGO project office.

In this reporting period 33 people i.e., 16 from Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and 17 from 4 selected wards were trained as facilitators on natural resources management and governance (NRM), and Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM). The trained trainers were also equipped with training skills that will enable them to pass their knowledge to project beneficiaries. The training comprised of 24 men and 9 women who were trained for 9 days: 3 days on natural resources governance training and 6 days SAM training.

Moreover, the Project Team resubmitted to Pamoja Twajenga communication materials namely: banners, brochures and NRM training manual for technical support. The materials aim to inform stakeholders and members of the public on important information about the CEGO project. The banner was printed and used during the training. LEAT also received feedback on the submitted Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (MEP) from USAID and revised it with the assistance from Pamoja Twajenga. The finalized MEP will be submitted to the USAID in the next quarter for approval. LEAT also received feedback from Year I Workplan from USAID and attended the Workplan Development Training organized by Pamoja Twajenga to improve the work plans of the grantees before resubmitting them to USAID.

1.0 Project Overview

This four-year project is implemented in Iringa and Mufindi districts in the first two years and Kilombero and Mvomero districts in the last two years. These districts were selected because they have Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), wildlife resources, forests and protected areas. The criteria that guided their selection were and are: the network LEAT has established in these districts which serve as entry points; the organization's past experience in working on natural resources management related legal issues; and the trainings on public expenditure and tracking surveys LEAT conducted in Wami-Mbiki, Idodi, and Pawaga.

Under the project, LEAT is going to use SAM as a tool to enable citizens in the four project districts to monitor how public institutions tasked with the management of public resources spend and manage those resources for and on behalf of the public. Exercising this role will entail capacity building to LEAT staff members who will form the project implementation and management team. In order to build a critical mass of empowered citizens at the village level, the project implementation team will train 32 people working for CBOs; 28 members from the district natural resources committees; 700 people randomly selected from villages to be trained on beekeeping; 1,500 members from village environmental and natural resources committees and 4,160 villagers (both men and women).

This intensive training on natural resources management and governance and SAM will also be conducted to two (CBOs) in each selected district. The trained staff members from CBOs will be deployed and supported financially to implement capacity building and advocacy at the village level. CBO partners will also benefit from the organizational and advocacy capacity support from Pamoja Twajenga as needed.

The project intends to meet the following objectives:

- To advocate for proper management of natural resources in order to reduce poverty and ensure sustainable conservation of biodiversity;
- To inculcate a culture of public participation in matters related to natural resources conservation and management;
- To increase community capacity in holding accountable government institutions entrusted with the duty to conserve and manage natural resources;
- To promote effective enforcement and implementation of laws and policies that integrate natural resources and climate change as indispensable tools for attaining good governance and sustainable management of natural resources; and
- To build capacity to individuals in social accountability monitoring in order to enable them actively perform an oversight role over management of public resources.

Project Goal and Results

Project Goal

CEGO aims to improve Citizens' capacity in engaging in government oversight on natural resource management.

Intermediate results:

Project Intermediate Result 1: Increased citizen awareness on proper management of forests and wildlife resources at district, ward and village level.

Project Intermediate Result 2: Citizens engagement in demanding for accountability and transparency in the management of forests and wildlife enhanced

2.0 Project Implementation Progress

The following project activities were implemented in this reporting period.

2.1 Administrative activities and Training

➤ Office Renovation and Procurement of Project Equipment

During this period, part of the office was renovated to be able to accommodate some of the project staff, such as Senior Program Officer, Administrative Officer, and M&E Officer; also one room is used as Server room. The renovation included removal of old wooden partition and installation of new aluminum and Plasticized Vitreous Compound (PVC) partition as well as reinstallation of new communication network after the old one was removed with the old structure.

Procurement was made for the project equipment including Laptops, Server, Office furniture's (chairs, desks, and metal cabinets).

➤ **Work Plan Development Training**

LEAT staff attended Workplan Development Training, which was organized and facilitated by Pamoja Twajenga from June 4 to 6 2014 at Pamoja Twajenga Offices. The aim of the training was to increase the capacity of LEAT staff to develop a strong-and-an outcome-focused Workplan. Moreover, it was geared at enabling LEAT to incorporate comments received in the initial Workplan submitted to USAID. With the technical support from Pamoja Twajenga, LEAT managed to prepare the final Workplan for year I, to be submitted to USAID in July for approval.

➤ **Pamoja Twajenga project Kick-off and National Issue based dialogue event**

LEAT, as one of the USAID grantees, participated in the Pamoja Twajenga Project Kick-off event conducted in April 1 2014 followed by the national issue based dialogue on April 2 2014. USAID's Democracy, Human Right and Governance (DRG) grantees and non-grantees, together with representatives from CEGO Project implementation districts attended the event. The participants included: District Commissioners (DCs) and District Executive Directors (DEDs) from CEGO project districts, representatives from Institutions of Accountability (IOAs) receiving grants from USAID, sub-grantees from Zanzibar, non-DRG grantees, and media.

During the event LEAT was given an opportunity to introduce the NRM-CEGO project to different government leaders and implementing partners and elicit ideas and experiences on how the project could well be implemented in the selected regions and districts. The event also provided a platform to meet with implementing CSOs, DCs and DEDs who facilitated the field visits to the districts.

Planned activities for the Next Quarter (July 1- 30 September 2014)

The project team will undertake the following activities: Office renovation and maintenance completion procurement of project equipment and installation.

Table 1: April-June 2014 Milestones

<i>1.1. Administration</i>
➤ Remaining part of procured equipment (printer and Projector) delivered

2.2 Technical Activities

This part describes the technical activities implemented under the project in the third quarter from April 1 to June 30, 2014. It documents briefly the project intermediate results, the main activities, and sub-activities implemented under each intermediate results.

PIR1: Increased citizen awareness on proper management of forests and wildlife resources at district, ward, and village levels.

Activity 1.2. Review of policies, laws and regulations in Natural resource Management

LEAT collected and analyzed different laws and regulations, which govern forest and wildlife resources in order to identify their strengths and weaknesses in matters relating to sound management of natural resources. The analysis was used as the reference point during the preparation of the Training Manual on Natural Resources Management and will be used for advocacy purposes. The following sub-activities were accomplished:

1.2.1. Collection of relevant policies, laws and regulations pertaining to natural resources management.

LEAT collected relevant natural resources policies, laws, and regulations to the CEGO in Natural Resource Management Project. To accomplish this task it used different sources of information to obtain official and up-to-date legal documents. Among sources consulted include: Bunge Website, Ministries' Website, National Environmental Management Council Website, Tanzania Law Reports, Judgments of the Courts of Law, LEAT and other environmental organizations publications.

Ultimately, LEAT collected several policies, laws, and regulations on forest and wildlife resources management which were also used reference materials during the preparation of the Natural Resource Management Training Manual. Among the documents collected and analyzed were:

Policies:

- National Environmental Policy of 1997;
- The Wildlife Policy of Tanzania, 1998;
- The National Forest Policy 1998; and
- The National Land Policy of 1999;

Acts:

- The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, Cap. 2 R.E 2002;
- The Land Act, No. 4 of 1999;
- The Village Land Act No. 5 of 1999;
- The Local Government (District Authorities) Act, No. 7 of 1982;
- The Local Government (Urban Authorities) Act, No. 8 of 1982;
- The Environmental Management Act, No. 20 of 2004;
- The Forest Act No. 14 of 2002;
- The National Parks Act, 1959; and
- The Wildlife Conservation Act, No. 5 of 2009.

Regulations:

- Wildlife Management Areas Regulations, 2012;
- Forest Harvesting Regulations, 2007.

1.2.2. Preparation of Simplified Versions of Training Manual on Natural Resources Management

LEAT prepared a simplified Training Manual on Natural Resources Management (the Manual). The Manual was used during the trainings to Trainer of Trainers in Iringa and Mufindi districts and will be used as a guide for the remaining trainings in the CEGO-NRM project areas.

The Manual is divided into three parts of which the first part presents the general overview of natural resource management, ways of managing natural resources and institutions responsible with natural resources management in the country. The second part deals with policies, laws, and regulations governing the management of natural resources and natural resources management and protection common offences. The third part, which is also the final part, describes the general theme of the book (citizens' participation in natural resource management). It introduces the concept of good governance of natural resources; the importance of citizens' participation in natural resource management, and the challenges and problems bedeviling the wildlife and forest sectors. The manual will be distributed to the participants after being printed.

1.2.3. Stakeholders' Meeting/workshop to Review the Training Manual

LEAT managed to organize and conduct a two-day stakeholders' meeting/workshop in May 2014 at the Giraffe Ocean View Hotel. The meeting encompassed different stakeholders from various institutions mostly relating to natural resource management. These included Tanzania Forest Service (TFS), Baraza la Kiswahili Tanzania (BAKITA), National Environmental Management Council (NEMC), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Tanzania Natural Resources Forum (TNRF), HakiArdhi, Mtandao wa Jamii wa Usimamizi wa Misitu Tanzania MJUMITA, Envirocare among others. The meeting/workshop aimed at enabling the invitees to review the Draft Manual and give their views on how it could be improved. They were further asked to give their views and comments on its content, structure, language, and design. Thereafter LEAT incorporated all views and comments and sent the Draft Manual to Pamoja Twajenga for technical input including Branding.

Activity 1.3. Citizens' capacity building on Natural Resources Management and governance to CBOs, Wards Representatives, District Natural Resources Committee members (DNRC), Village Natural Resources Committees members (VNRC), Village Land Use Councils (VLUC) and Village Land Council (VLC).

The activity aimed at building the capacity of DNRC officials, VNRC members and Village Land Councils as duty bearers towards management of natural resources at the Local Government (LGA) level. It also aimed at imparting knowledge to selected CBOs members and Ward representatives on natural resources management who together with LEAT will be trainers at the grassroots level. This is because the trained CBOs and Ward representatives will be able to reach to a larger part of the community through trainings under the supervision of LEAT Field Officers. This approach aims at creating the project goals sustainability, as the trainers will continue offering those trainings even beyond the project period. This activity was implemented through the following sub activities:

1.3.2 Training of CBOs members and Ward members (Representatives) on Natural Resources Management and Governance

A ten-day training involving implementing partners (CBOs) from Mufindi and Iringa Rural Districts Councils was conducted from June 25 to July 4, 2014 at VETA Meeting Hall in Iringa Municipality. A total number of 33 trainees were trained on NRM and SAM. 16 trainees were from CBOs namely: African Soil Hives and Technology (ASH-TECH), Mufindi Vijana Kwa Maendeleo (MUVIMA), Mtandao wa Jamii wa Usimamizi Misitu Kanda ya Kitapilimwa (MJUMIKIKI) and Pawaga and Idodi Wildlife Management Area (MBOMIPA). Additionally, there were 17 participants from different wards of Idodi

and Kiwere in Iringa Rural District as well as Sadani and Igombavanu in Mufindi District. The trainings focused on the following:

- Nature and historical background of Natural resources management in Tanzania;
- The status of forest and wildlife resources in Tanzania;
- Policies, laws and regulations governing natural resources in Tanzania;
- Rights and duties of citizens in the management of natural resources;
- The importance of citizens' engagement in management of natural resources;
- Offenses related to violation of natural resources laws and regulations; and
- Role of CBO members and ward representatives as trainers in NRM.

The training aimed at equipping the CBOs staff and members from wards with requisite skills on natural resources management and governance and SAM that will enable them to perform their activities efficiently and accomplish the objectives of the CEGO project. The training imparted them with theoretical and practical knowledge on natural resource governance including community based conservation programs in Tanzania focusing on forestry and wildlife. The knowledge imparted from the training, will be used by them to build the capacity of fellow citizens on natural resources management and governance. Citizens with that knowledge will, in turn, demand accountability in NRM in Iringa rural and Mufindi districts from relevant district government officials and village council leaders.

The pictures below display facilitators and participants during the Training of Trainers in Iringa at VETA Hall.





Initially LEAT planned to conduct separate trainings to CBOs and then Ward Representative on both NRM and SAM. The trainings were designed in such a way that CBOs could first be trained on NRM and SAM followed by training of Ward Representatives on both NRM and SAM. This approach, however, needed a lot of time and resources, which were and are not available and was dropped. Instead, LEAT held combined CBOs and Ward Representatives training, because all of them are going to be TOTs to villagers on NRM and SAM. They were also transformed into an implementation team, which will work together with LEAT's Field Officers to facilitate trainings at grassroots level and create a common understanding during project implementation. Additionally, the training took place during the harvesting period this necessitated combining the trainings to avoid absenteeism.

PIR 2: Citizens engagement in demanding for accountability and transparency in the management of forests and wildlife resources improved

Activity2.1. Capacity building to citizens (DNRC, VNRC, CBOs and Ward Representatives) on Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM)

The activity aims at building capacity of citizens in demanding accountability and transparency in management of natural resources especially forest and wildlife. It is intended to advocate for proper and sound management of natural resources through training of citizens on Social Accountability Monitoring in natural resources like forest and wildlife. LEAT did the following to accomplish the intended objectives under this activity:

2.1.1. Preparation of simple version of training manual on SAM

LEAT Project Team prepared a simple version of Training Manual on SAM in Natural Resources Management, which will be used as a guiding training material during training sessions. The Manual contains the following: SAM as a human right based approach; the five stages of SAM (Planning and Resources Allocation, Expenditure Management, Performance Management, Integrity and Oversight);

international and national laws justifying the process of SAM; Main stakeholders of SAM; and Important (key) documents used during SAM process.

2.1.2 Training of CBOs and Ward members as Trainers on SAM

LEAT is required, under the project, to build capacities of CBOs and citizens in the project area on SAM approach. In order to enable CBOs and Wards officers to work with LEAT to implement SAM LEAT held a 6-day training at VETA Training Centre in Iringa.

In the process 33 trainees were trained on SAM 16 of whom trainees were from CBOs namely: African Soil Hives and Technology (ASH-TECH), MUVIMA, MJUMIKIKI and MBOMIPA. 17 other participants represented different wards of Idodi and Kiwere in Iringa Rural district as well as Sadani and Igombavanu in Mufindi District.

The trainings on SAM focused on the following areas:

- General understanding of Social Accountability Monitoring;
- International Conventions, National policies, laws and Acts on realization of Human Rights;
- Social Accountability Monitoring and Human rights;
- Key stakeholders in Social Accountability Monitoring;
- Key documents required in Social Accountability Monitoring; and
- 5 key interlinked stages of social accountability Monitoring

The trainees were introduced to the concept of social accountability in the human rights context and it is rooted in key international and national human rights instruments. These human rights legal instruments provide space to citizens in Tanzania to hold their government to account on various fronts including service delivery. These include:

- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
- The Banjul convention on Dignity and Human Rights;
- The African Commission on Human Rights; and
- The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1977;

These trainees were also introduced to the five stages of SAM mentioned above which form the core part of SAM. The trainees will use these stages in assessing the whole process of public funds allocation, management, and expenditure while participating in villagers' trainings in Mufindi and Iringa. They will, together with villagers; assess how those in authority adhere to these stages after their trainings. More emphasis put on the interconnectivity within the cycle and the way that affect progressive realization of human rights and capabilities. The trainees were also equipped with requisite knowledge on public resources governance, which they will impart to villagers in project areas in Mufindi and Iringa Rural districts. This will improve public resources governance and accountability in those districts and advance CEGO's objectives..

LEAT's Program Officers and Field Officers facilitated the training under the coordination of the Senior Program Officer. The approach used was participatory entailing classical learning while on the other hand group works were used so as to increase participation chances to the trainees to share experiences. The prepared testimonial videos on how the training was conducted and its importance to the society will be shared to Pamoja Twajenga for review and assessment.

LEAT Support to Authorized Associations Consortium (AAC) Constitutional Review

LEAT with the support from Pamoja Twajenga also managed to provide technical support to Authorized Associations Consortium in reviewing its Constitution. LEAT was able to collect views and comments from Selected WMAs, partners and villages forming WMAs on what should be featured in AAC Constitution. The WMAs visited include Mbaranga'ndu in Namtumbo district, MBOMIPA in Iringa rural district, Wami Mbiki in Morogoro, Bagamoyo and Mvomero districts, Ikona in Serengeti district, Burunge in Babati district and Ngarambe Tapika in Rufiji district. AAC partners who were contacted include the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) based in Serengeti, African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) based in Arusha and WWF based in Dar es Salaam.

LEAT also interviewed a number of officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism. The views and comments gathered from the respondents played a great role in the completion of this exercise. This is among the great achievement made so far since LEAT is highly committed to work with all other USAID grant beneficiaries.

Table 2: April-June 2014 Milestones

<i>1.1. Technical Activities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ TOT was conducted to 33 participants from CBOs on both NRM and SAM; ➤ A simplified Version of training Manual on NRM and SAM has been prepared and validated; and ➤ AAC Constitution Reviewed and the first draft produced.

4.1. Monitoring and Evaluation

4.1.1. Baseline study in Citizens Engaging in Natural Resources Management

During this quarter LEAT conducted household baseline study in seven (7) villages namely: Tambalang'ombe (Sadani Ward), Lugodalutali (Igombavanu Ward), Ugute (Isalavanu Ward), Nyololo Njiapanda (Nyololo Ward), Itunundu (Itunundu Ward), Kiwele (Kiwele Ward) and Idodi (Idodi Ward). Selected villages act as representatives of other Project implementing villages of Mufindi and Iringa Rural Districts with forest and wildlife resources. Selection of villages was based on natural resources richness including Forest and Wildlife.

The aim of the study was to collect and analyze the baseline data in the selected project areas with the view of ascertaining the current situation prior to project intervention. The data were collected through interviews with Villagers and Village leaders including Village Executive Officer, Village

Chairperson, and Village Natural Resource Committee' Secretary/Chairperson from every visited village guided by already prepared questionnaires.

LEAT M& E Officer and Field Officer prepared questionnaires under the support of LEAT M& E mentor (Mr. Mbilinyi) who reviewed the questionnaires. The findings of the baseline study will be shared with Pamoja Twajenga and USAID through the baseline report after the analysis.



Figure 1: One among many interviews during baseline study in Idodi Village Idodi Ward.

Table3: April-June 2014 Milestones

1.1. Monitoring Activities
➤ A baseline study conducted

5.1 Project Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Materials

5.1.1 Preparation and printing of communication materials brochures, one page profile, roll up banners and t-shirts)

LEAT prepared and printed 4 roll up banners for the project, designed brochures on NRM and SAM. It also designed and printed 50 T-shirts that will be used during implementation of project activities. These materials will be distributed to project beneficiaries and the citizens during project implementation. LEAT also prepared a one-pager profile. Brochures and the one pager profile are still in the fine tuning process, waiting for certification by Pamoja Twajenga before being approved by USAID to be printed.

5.4 Maintenance of LEAT information outlet

Relevant project information including training pictures and reports have been shared through LEAT Facebook page and blog. Direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project on the one hand and members of the public on the other will be able to access the program information and materials from the media outlets www.mazingira-lead.blogspot.com and LEAT's Facebook page which is (Lawyers Environmental Action Team) LEAT website is still under construction.

Table4: April-June 2014 Milestones

<i>1.1. Project Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Materials</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 4 roll-up project banners prepared and printed; ➤ 50 Project T-shirts designed, printed and some distributed to CBOs and LEAT staff; and ➤ LEAT website constructed and maintained.

Course Corrections, and Lessons Learned

LEAT managed to learn that the trainings conducted to CBOs and TOTs enabled the project implementation team to better understand various issues where communities have been denied a space to participate. Such issues include strategic planning and resource allocation on natural resources, issues pertaining to expenditure management on natural resources and what has been the approach by the government in addressing these challenges

It was also learnt that some of the community members are not aware of their rights in engaging in management of forest and wildlife resources. This has hindered the direct participation of community members on matters relating to natural resources use and decision making processes

It was further learnt that lack of natural resources management knowledge has greatly contributed to unwisely use of natural resources in the project districts. This is coupled by the lack of transparency in natural resources issues with local communities being the victims.

2.3 Activities to be undertaken in the next Quarter

LEAT intends to implement the following activities in the next quarter (July to September 2014):

- To complete preparing and Publication of Training Manual SAM;
- Publication of Training Manual on Natural Resources Management;
- Stakeholders' Meeting to Review SAM Training Manual
- Publication of Training Manual on Social Accountability Monitoring;
- Conduct trainings to Village Environmental Natural Resources Committees (VNRC), Village

Land Use Councils (VLUC), Village Land Council (VLC) on NRM and Governance and SAM.

- Monitoring and Evaluation activities priorities for next quarter
 - Compilation of Baseline study findings and report writing.
 - Review of M&E plan and submission.
 - Follow up of project activities.
 - Preparation and finalization of Implemented Partners Reporting Sheet (IPRS).
 - Quarterly review meeting.
- Communication and branding
 - Finalization of communication strategy;
 - Printing of communication materials such as brochures and One pager;
 - Maintenance of LEAT website; and
 - Preparation and publication of newspapers articles.

Table 2: July-September 2014 Milestones

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 25000 booklets of Training manuals for NRM and Governance—published ; ➤ 25000 booklets of Training manual for SAM ---published; ➤ 350 members of VNRC, VLUC, VLC and other NRM committees in selected villages in Iringa Rural and Mufindi districts trained on NRM and governance and SAM ➤ Communication Strategy completed and submitted to USAID ➤ Communication materials completed and in use ➤ Baseline survey for Iringa Rural and Mufindi districts reports completed

3.0 Challenges Encountered in 3rd Quarter and Actions Taken

LEAT had encountered the following challenges in the third quarter of project implementation:

LEAT had to review and rewrite and resubmit the Workplan to USAID after attending training at Pamoja Twajenga. This training could have been conducted at the initial stage of the project for instance early January when it prepared the Workplan. However, the training on Workplan was very helpful to project team since LEAT has started to use the current new work plan under the support of PT.